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Valley Star

Volume 47, Issue No 27 | Los Angeles Valley College | Van Nuys, California | February 16, 1995

News Notes

Counseling Department and Transfer Center: Deadline for filing graduation petitions for Fall 1995 is March 3, at 4 p.m. Petitions are available in the Graduation office in Administration 127. For more information contact Marsha Respess, graduation clerk at ext. 403.

CSUN representative will be on campus Feb. 21, March 7 and 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Cafeteria on a drop-in basis, on Feb 27 and March 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment in the Transfer Center and on March 13 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. by appointment in the Transfer Center.

Lee College representative will be on campus Feb. 22 and March 15 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. by appointment in the Transfer Center; and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on a drop in basis in Monarch Square.

CSU Fresno representative will be on campus Feb 22 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. by appointment in the Transfer Center and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on a drop-in basis in Monarch Square.

UCLA has changed many requirements of its majors. Pick up a copy of the changes in the Counseling Department.

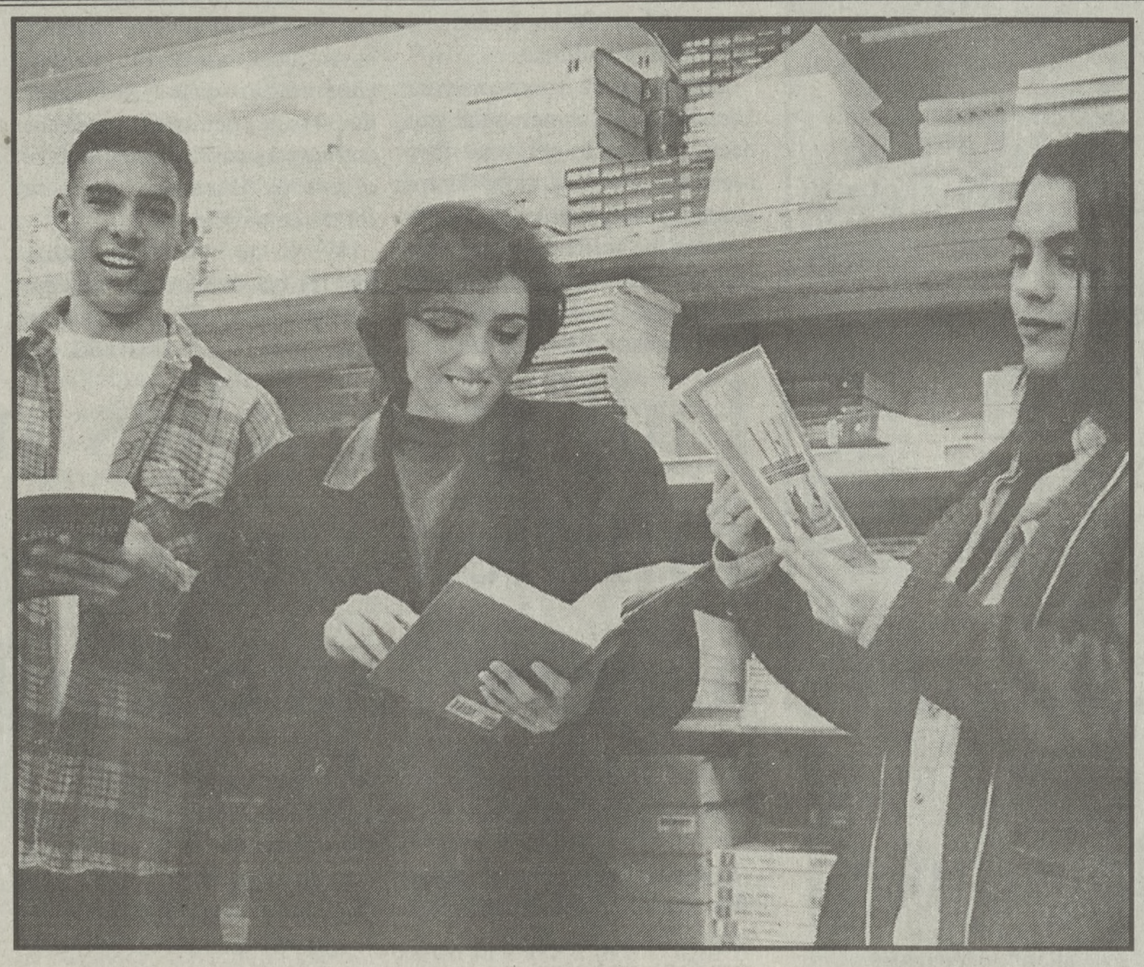
Valley will be closed on Feb 17, and Feb 20, in honor of Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays respectively.

Tuesday Workshop Series presents "How To Write an Application Essay for a University," presented by Mr. Patrick Hunter from noon to 1 p.m. in Foreign Language 102.

Algebra competency testing will be held Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and Feb. 27 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Campus Center 116.

Financial Aid:
Ability to benefit test will be held Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. in Campus Center 116. No appointment is necessary, the test take one hour and 30 minutes, every student must bring a picture ID.

Professor Moshe Maoz will be speaking on "The Arab-Israeli Peace Process and the Palestinian Problem," in Foreign Language 113 from noon to 1:20 p.m. At 2:15 in the Campus Center Fireside room he will be speaking on, "The Syrian and Israeli Conflict." Both lectures will take place on Feb. 21.



DAVID BALDWIN/VALLEY STAR

Tony Bermudez and other book grant recipients looking to spend the scholoarship money.

For second semester, 10 students earn book grants

"We set the tone for future administrations to offer book grants"
Jesse Dominguez

By AARON DORN
Valley Star Staff Writer

For the second semster in a row, Associated Student Union (ASU) book grants of $100 were awarded to 10 qualifying Valley students.

"Student need and student achievement were the two criteria we look at in issuing these grants," said ASU Vice President Jessie Dominguez. Requirements to be eligible for the grant were to be a paid ASU member, must not have recieved an EOPS book grant, have a 2.50 G.P.A. or higher and be enrolled in 12 units as a day student or six units as a night student.

The 10 book grants were awarded to: Sherry Dumas, Amy Tisheman, Deidre M. Stiffel, Helga Gregorian, Lori Daney, Shasty Bita, Sandrella Zadikian, John Gravante, Jesus Antonio Bermudez and Rebecca Ann Green. Applicants for the grant had to fill out one brief application asking for general personal information and write a 100 word essay. The application deadline was Feb. 1.

Comissioner of Scholastic Activities, Namir Pabon said, "We had a committee of four ASU officers to decide who got the grants." The committee consisted of ASU president Frank Cramblitt, Public Relations Comissioner Barak Raviv, Dominguez and Pabon.

The $1,000 used for the 10 grants came out of ASU funds, which is, "....past student fees," according to Cramblitt. Student fees are the seven dollars and 50 cents students pay to be ASU members.

Applications for the book grant totaled 27, which is up from last semester. ASU could not confirm how many students applied for the book grant last semester. As for there being book grants offered next semester Cramblitt said, "It's up to next years administration to issue book grants." Dominguez said, "We have set the tone for future administrations to offer these book grants."

"We (this administration) set a precedence, the reason being that in the past you had to be broke or on welfare to get a book grant. We recognized that many students with high achievement levels were in that or similar positions and could not get a grant. That is why we made this book grant. The grants will most likely be issued next semester, and like this and last semester, 10 grants would be issued."

Certificates of recognition were given to the book grant winners this semester.

"The money won't last for long, but this certificate will, and hopefully this certificate will provide incentive for these students to stay motivated," said Pabon. Pabon said, "These book grants depend on the students. The students have to want to apply and show the interest."

Flyers advertising the grants were posted up around campus early on in the semester. The flyers were also placed in professors boxes so they could get the word out to the students.

Ridesharing saves time

By LAURA RENOLDS
Valley Star Staff Writer

Students at Valley can now get around San Fernando by public transportation or Ridesharing. Carpooling or Ridesharing is not new but can work for people headed in the same direction to school as well as work.

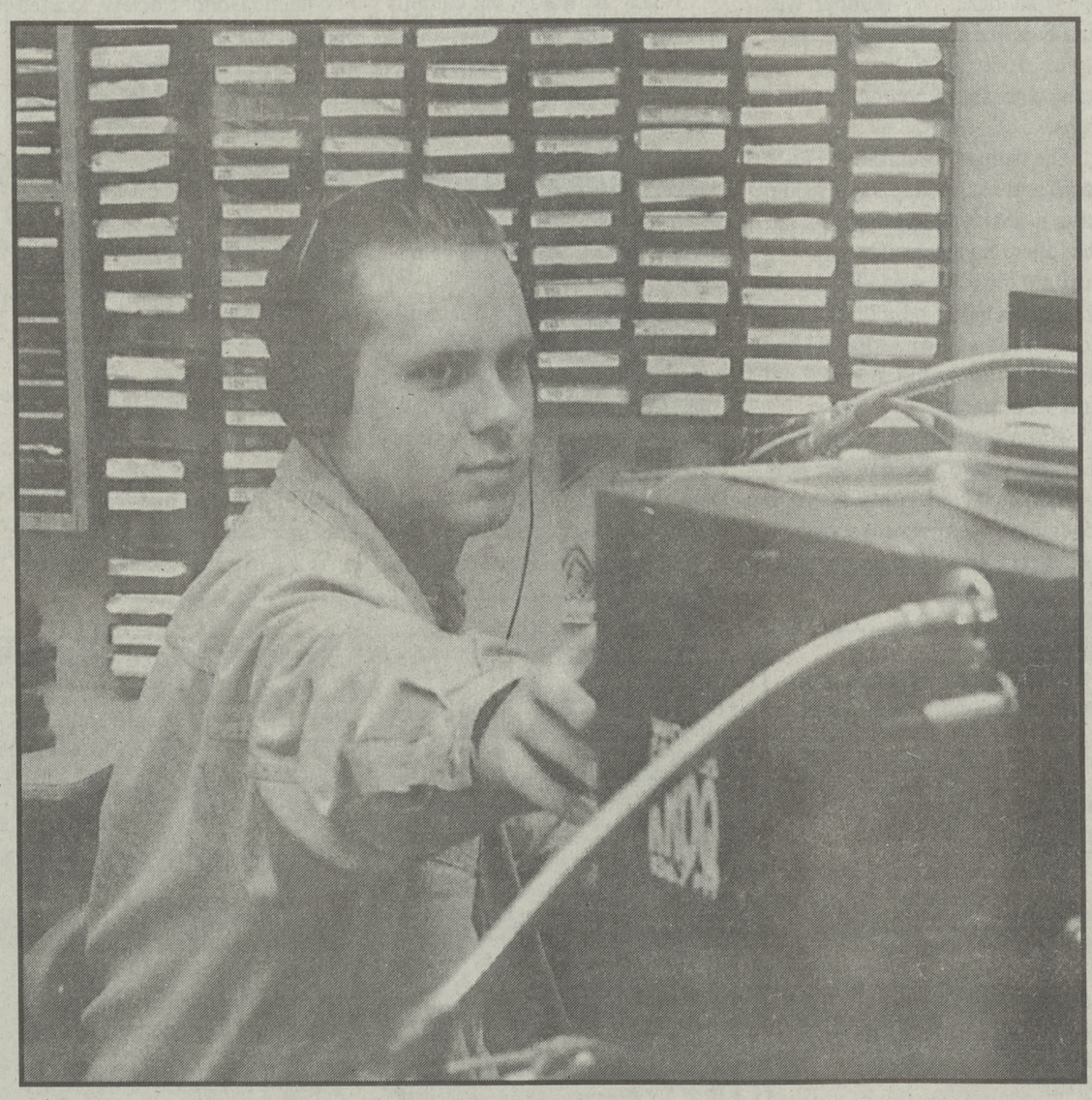
Valley students now can save money and can make a difference in the ozone layer on our planet. Ridesharing can also reduce the probability of traffic jams that can save time to and from school.

If you choose to use public transportation, the new bus pass can be bought at the Business Office on campus. Student bus fare information can be provided by the staff on campus about the new Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA).

A student sharing a ride also can cut back on high insuranceand gas costs.

Campus police officer Spencer Gosenson said, "You can also ride your bike to school with ease knowing there are bike racks between almost every building on campus. All laws off campus like the wearing of a helmet for safety also should be applied on campus for your safety while on your bike. On campus if a student should want to see a video about Ridesharing please feel free to come and see the video at the Business Office on campus free of charge."

Gosenson said, "If you should want to talk to campus police officer Gail Tam about the ridesharing and how it could help students save money and time please contact him at the Campus Police office on campus during his working hours between 3 and 10:30 p.m. Please note that there are buses almost at every corner around Valley to meet your everyday needs."



DOROU BOGHOSIAN/VALLEY STAR

On air personality "Duinamo" answers students requests for on air dedications for Feb 14.

Students send their Valentines over the air

By DAVID HELLESKOV
Managing Editor

Originally scheduled in Monarch Square for Feb. 14, KVCM 830 AM, Valley's radio station presented "My Radio Valentine." Instead disc jockey and on-air personalities set-up in the Cafeteria nine a.m. to two p.m. due to the rains. Students, teachers and listeners could come up to the table and for $2, send a dedication or message to people they love or hate.

"Song dedications and love or hate messages can be sent over the airwaves on campus. Hate messages have been very popular," Russell Greenspan, KVCM disc jockey said.

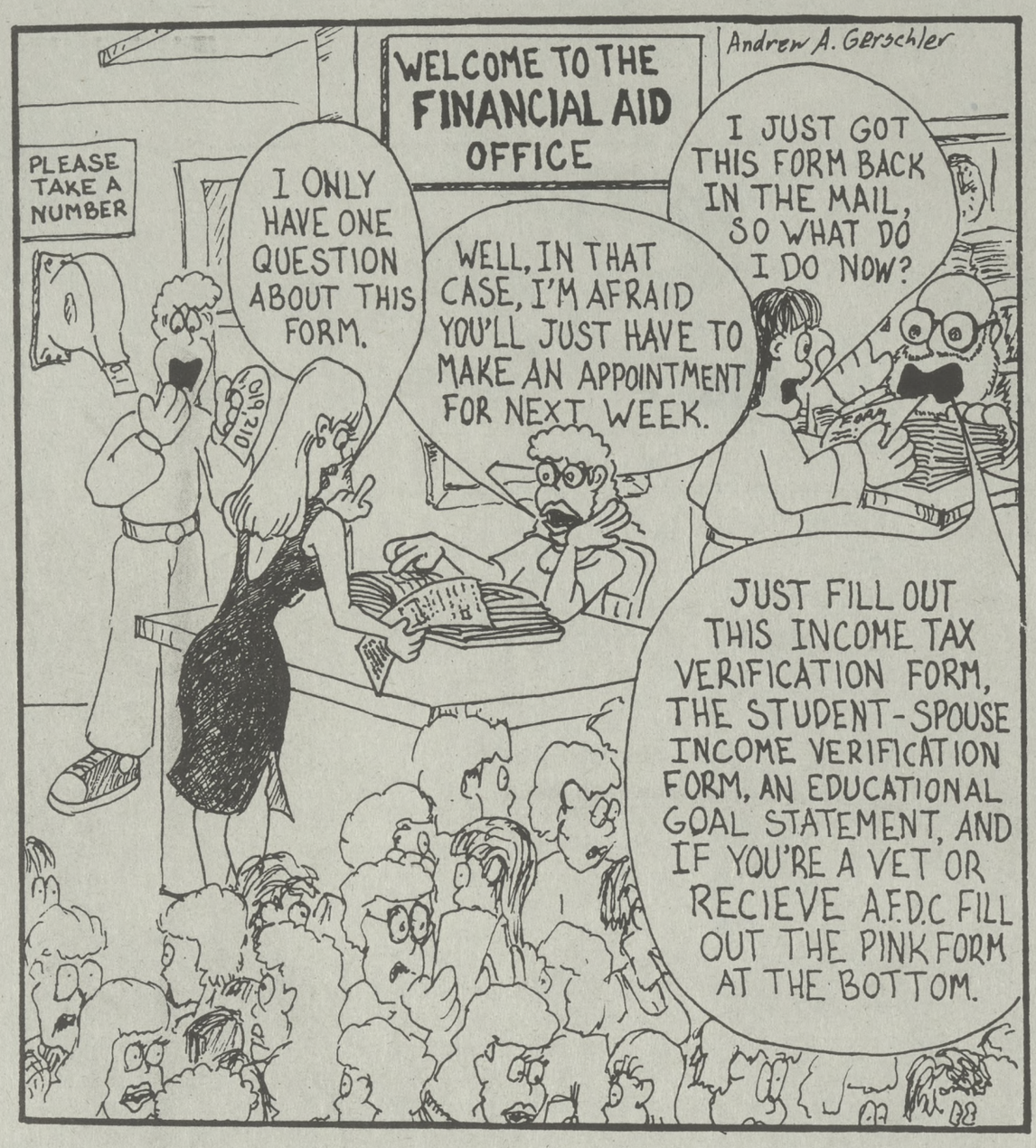
Richard Blythe, station manager said, "It was a good idea, but rain kept a lot of people away. This is the first time it's been done, a radio dedication for Valentine's Day. The cost was $2, then reduced to $1 for a 30 second or longer message."

Mike McKinney, member and senate representative for the Campus Christian Fellowship said, "KVCM radio needs more powerful transmitters and receivers. Hopefully, people would be in the area to hear the messages sent on the air. People have trouble putting down their feelings on paper and sending messages over the air is a good way to get over shyness, while putting out your true feelings to somebody."

Disc jockey Third Riech Steven of the Insane Asylum from the night show put out this hate message, "Roses are red, violets are blue, my dog has VD because of you."

10 dedications were sent during the event. There were more hate than love notes. Ken Edelberg, night station manager said, "If we did advertising in Jan., with the rain burdening the event, we could have held the show in Monarch Square like the flyers indicated and had a better turnout."

"Personally, we could have sold cookies or cards, done the show live and had more creative ideas. More people should have been more involved with the valentine show," said Duinamo Brady, KVCM disc jockey.



Editorial

No pricing at bookstore facilitates frustration

Many students at Valley are in an uproar over the "no prices" policy at the campus bookstore, including the editors at the Valley Star.

According to Claudette Burns, bookstore manager, the prices were removed from the books due to a lack of labor and time.

The bookstore is extremely inaccessible as it is now with students pushing to get what they need, and grabbing at books required by their instructors. Not to mention the horrendous lines that students must wait in both outside to get into the bookstore and inside to pay for the books. The fact that there are no prices on any books just makes the bookstore even more unenjoyable to have to visit.

Another aspect which adds to this dilemma is that many students must budget their money. This is a difficult task to accomplish when you do not know what anything costs. This means that students either need to wait in a line to check the 30 page price list or wait in line and have the cashier scew the price of the book. This adds excess work for the employees.

We at the Valley Star realize that the bookstore employees are overworked as it is, and putting the price on every individual book is a task we would not wish on anybody. However there could possibly be a solution. On the bookshelves there is a printout of the title of the book, its publisher, what teacher requires the book and the class section number. This tag could also give the prices of new and used books. If it cannot be printed directly on the tag through the computer, the prices could be hand written.

This would add more work for bookstore employees, but it is minor compared to pricing each individual book. Most importantly this would save much grief for both students and employees.

Full stomaches make for fulfilled students as well as motivated thinkers

By LAURA DENIS
Editor-in-Chief

If you are hungry here at Valley there are four places for a student to quench his or her appetite. However if you are hungry at a certain time of day or in a certain part of the campus you will have to starve.

The four places a student can presently get food is at the cafeteria, the snack shop by the Women's Gym, the snack shop by the Behavioral Science building and there is a snack shop by the old quad. Business hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., except at the stand by the Women's Gym, it closes at 1:30 p.m. If you are on campus during these hours, then this schedule works out perfectly. However if you have an early morning or late night class or if you are taking an art or music class getting nourishment is not that accessible.

Why is it that Valley has no vending machines? It seems to me that Pierce College has vending machines strategically placed so no matter where you are on campus it is only a minute walk and you will be face to face with food. Not only do they have these machines, but they have a variety of foods and drinks from which to choose. These machines sell everything from candy bars to apples to microwavable popcorn.

To top this off they also have microwaves next to the machines and in the cafeteria for students to use as they see fit.

At Valley if you were to bring soup or anything that was cold from home and you wanted to heat it up, too bad. Microwaves are only allowed to be used for items bought in the store.

Even if we do not have microwaves at Valley I do not understand why there are no vending machines. The school could bring in an outside vendor who would keep the machines stocked, in good running condition and it would cost Valley nothing. The other option would be to buy the machines and they would eventually pay for themselves and make a profit. The first option is probably the most practical because then Valley loses nothing but gains everything.

Perhaps the most important aspect of vending machines is they allow students to have full stomachs. This will ultimately lead to a better attention span during class lectures. From this a snowball effect will follow which will lead students to get better grades and improve overall performance.

Pro:

Financial aid lends a helping hand

By LAURA RENOLDS
Valley Star Staff Writer

A helping hand at the Financial Aid office in Bungalow 14 can provide assistance for Valley students. There are some times when we all can get a helping hand through financial assistance by filing out the required forms of the department.

The staff working in the Financial Aid office is well trained in various situations specific to the income of the person applying for aid. They helped me fill out the necessary paperwork to obtain a fee waiver and be able to continue my education. They also assisted me in completing forms for a grant which does not need to be paid back.

If interested in filing for finnancial aid, please be prepared with those items required by the staff at the time of registration. Some requirements are ID, Social Security, Income Tax's paid out, living with parents or living alone.

Students, if you have any money problems please visit Financial Aid. A staff member well help you or schedule an appointment talk to Ruth Siegel Financial Aid office officer in charge. Everyone treated me very fair.

The goal of Financial Aid is to provide access to postsecondary education for those who otherwise would be unable to continue their schooling and/or training. Loans, grants, scholarships and part-time employment are provided as monetary assistance to help meet the basic cost of educational expenses. Go out and help yourself for your future. The most important thing is your education.

Con:

Financial aid leaves students in a land of confusion

By BEATRIX HENCKE
Valley Star Staff Writer

Learning how to apply and collect financial aid can leave you confused. There was a feeling of tension and anticipation when I walked into Building 14.

I spoke to two students who were waiting patiently. They told me financial aid was a complicating process. A twenty year old woman said she had been approved but her check was not ready. Her over all grade point average was 2.5 for the Fall of 1994. After speaking with the receptionist and a counselor, she was told to come back in three to four days. I found her clutching a letter from Financial Aid which said she had been approved. Staring in disbelief at the list of names in the front window, she read her check was due Jan. 13. It was then Feb. 6.

I also met a young man who was having problems getting his application accepted. He filed out his forms five times and each time he received them back in the mail. It seems to me someone should sit down and explain more to help students understand how to process their financial aid.

I wanted to know more about the thousands of dollars in financial aid that goes unclaimed because students are not aware they are available. Taking a number, I waited while a few students worked the front desk. My number was finally called and I told the woman I was from the Valley Star and wanted to ask a couple of questions.

The woman went into the back room and returned to say I would have to make an appointment for the following week. This showed me how difficult it can be. I only wanted to ask a couple of questions. What would it be like if I had wanted to apply for financial aid or a scholarship?

From the bulletin board I did find out where you can get help with financial aid forms. Come to the cafeteria conference room from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on either Feb. 23 or Feb. 27.

Volunteers donate their time

By SYLVIA ARONSON
Valley Star Staff Writer

When the library on campus closed after the earthquake, it was closed for so long, I was indignant. Why the heck hadn't they asked for volunteers to put the dog-gone books back on the shelves? When the chance came along for me to express my opinion about this matter, I volunteered.

This is what I found out and it is stuff I would have realized if I had given it some thought. There was a lot of structural damage that needed to be professionally fixed before the books were put back. Boing!! Of course, well, that's that, but not really.

Doing a little more research on the subject, I also found out that help would have been forthcoming to the library if it had been needed by the Tau Alpha Epsilon, the Scholastic Honor Society, located here on the campus. This is a group of students that is comprised of approximately eighty students. To be elegible, you must have a 3.2 grade point average.

Marina Gonzalez, who this semester is a student at Whittier College, was President of TAE at that time. She told me that the three fold purpose of this group is to promote scholastic enrichment, to have fundraisers and to distribute the money raised from these events to the community. The community being the campus and areas of North Hollywood and Van Nuys. This includes the Salvation Army in Van Nuys, the Red Cross and relief for the homeless.

Last year, they raised nine hundred dollars for the earthquake relief fund. Some faculty members contributed also. In addition, they had a Halloween party for kids ages five to thirteen. They also raised two hundred and fifty dollars for the learning center.

Incidently, volunteers receive no money whatsoever for their work, only a gold tassel on their shoulder as they graduate.

Now, please hear this. The volunteers of Valley College, specifically the TAE will be collecting shoes, mainly tennis shoes, and blankets for the homeless.

To be a volunteer or if you have any tennis shoes or a blanket you can spare, please contact TAE in Monarch Hall, Room 100. They will be put to good use and are badly needed.

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Published each Thursday throughout the school year by students of the Journalism and Photography classes using computers and Aldus Pagemaker.

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Advertising Director

Represented by CASS
Advertising Service
1800 Sherman Pl.
Evanston, IL. 60201

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✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪

The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letter must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.

Six months later ASU finally cleaned up

By DAVID BALDWIN
Valley Star Staff Writer

"The cleaning and painting of the Associated Student Union (ASU) offices and of the Fireside Room has been finished after six months of sporadic work by the college's painters," said ASU President Frank Cramblitt.

The project, a major campaign focus for Cramblitt during his bid for the presidency, was started early on the Fall semester and it has been so far one of the major accomplishments of the current student senate.

"Vena Pourciau (Commissioner of Campus Improvement) jumped into it and went around and got bids on the painting and the carpeting of the ASU offices and Fireside Room and she got the school painters to do it," Cramblitt said.

The school painters painted the walls, the ceiling and refinished the doors of the Fireside Room first, located in the south end of Monarch Hall. Then they did the same work in the ASU offices.

"The downside to the school painters is that they might get called away on emergency jobs such as graffiti clean up on campus and that is why it took six months," Cramblitt said.

"I think it is great because of two purposes: One, because students will come in here and feel like they are in a real environment. Second, because it helps to encourage the students to join the ASU," Cramblitt said.

The thinking among ASU officials is that a clean environment inside their offices will attract more students to be part of the organization. Cramblitt said, "Right now the ASU is only three positions away from filling all its posts, which we have not done in years."

"There are 24 people that have helped find ways to redo the Fireside Room and ASU offices. I am glad we got a chance to clean them up. They were in such bad conditions and they just look so much better now," Cramblitt said.

The ASU offices have also been refurnished with used furniture. Still another innovating feature within the ASU offices has been the installation of a computer, that enable senate members to communicate to other ASU members in California through Internet.

Internet is a computer program that enables users to communicate to people thoughout the world.

Cramblitt said, "Neither the ASU offices, nor the Fireside Room have been remodeled for the last 10 years and they were in bad shape."



DAVID BALDWIN/VALLEY STAR

Frank Cramblitt A.S.U. President, along with ASU members, Cyntha Alden, Annette Bailey and Jacquline Rodriquez show off the newly painted ASU annex.

ASU In-Brief

Three commisionerships are available at ASU. They are: Commisioner of Native American Concerns, Fine Arts and Jewish Concerns. For more information and to get an application go to Campus Center 102.
Cafe Hillel, a weekly coffeehouse is every Thursday Night from 8 p.m. to midnight. Admission is free, for more information call (818) 887-5901
Cross Culture meetings are held every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Humanities 104.
Friends of Unity meetings are held every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Cafeteria.

Clubs seek out new members

By LEONARDO MAYORGA
Valley Star Staff Writer

Campus clubs and organizations searching for new recruits gathered in Monarch Square Feb. 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for club day.

The event's main objective is to give all the clubs that function on campus an opportunity to get new members and make students aware of the many benefits of joining campus clubs and organizations.

"Club day came out really successful because a lot of students came out and found out information of the various clubs, their activities, requirements, plus, they also got the opportunity to get brochures and something to eat," said Jesse Dominguez, Head of Student Senate.

"There were so many clubs which interest me that it's hard to choose a club to belong to," said Albert Ursua, Valley student.

"I was glad about club day because for the short time frame each club did an excellent job getting their act together," Dominguez said.

"We recruited a lot of members today," said Michael Bonilla, Vice President of Administration of Justice.

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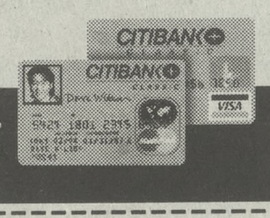
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Critically accaimed pianist to fill campus halls with music

By ED RAWLINS
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Music Department will present critically acclaimed pianist and composer Professor Andrzej Dutkiewicz with his rendition of Polish composers Thursday, February 23 in the Music Recital Hall at 11 a.m.

Dutkiewicz has gained international attention for his performance of standard piano repertoire, particulary interpretations of Chopin's and Szymanowski's music, as well as, for his performance of contemporary works.

"I am always trying to bring as much variety as possible to the concert series," said instructor Dianne Wintrob, who heads the booking agenda for the college.

Dutkiewicz has given lectures and recitals in more than 50 American Universities and summer music festivals. Among these were the Cleveland Orchestra Blossom Festival, the American Franz Liszt Society Festival and contemporary Polish composers including Lutoslawski, Goreceki, and Penderecki.

According to Wintrob, Dutkiewicz appears regularly at college symposiums and master classes, where his emphasis is on interpretations of 20th century music.

Ditkiewicz is a founder of GRUPAXX, a 20th century music ensemble in Warsaw and has recorded for Polish radio and TV.

Ditkiewicz is a graduate of Poland's Warsaw Conservatory and a Fulbright Scholar. For the past 20 years he has conducted courses in the interpretation of contemporary music at the National Music Camp at Interlocken, Michigan.

His works are published by Sonoton Pro Nova, Authors Agency and Polish Music Publishers.

Valley College Music Department Campus Concert Series Feb. 23 to April 6, 1995

Feb. 23: Andrzej Dutkiewicz playing the piano with music by Polish composers in the Music Recital Hall, 11 a.m.

March 2: Guild Opera presents: ALICE IN WONDERLAND with Robert Chauls, composer & conductor in the Music Recital Hall, 11a.m.

March 8: Valley Symphony Orchestra presents the Concerto Concert with Robert Chauls conductor in the LITTLE THEATRE, 8 p.m.

March 9: Maria Newman playing both the violin and piano with George Thatcher playing the trombone in the Music Recital Hall, 11a.m.

March 11: IMA Chamber Concerts presents Michele Zukovsky playing the clarinet, Michael O'Donovan playing the bassoon, David Kappy playing the horn, Yoko Matsuda on violin, Robert Dan playing the viola, Hirofumi Kanno playing the cello, and Edward Meares playing the contrabass in the Music Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m. $20, $15, students & seniors.

March 13: LAVC Wind Ensemble with Irvin Pope, conductor in the Little Theatre at 8 p.m.

March 16: Jesse Monreal will be playing the guitar in the Music Recital Hall at 11 a.m. Music Recital Hall, 11:00 a.m.

March 19: Andrew York playing the guitar in the Music Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. $6, $5 students & seniors

March 23: March Goodrich, tenor with March Salters playing the piano in the Music Recital Hall, 11:00 a.m.

March 30: Jeanine Jacobson playing the piano in the Music Recital Hall, 11:00 a.m.

March 30: Lomar Jazz Ensemble will be performing in Music Room 112 8:00 p.m.

April 2: LAVC Philharmonic Choir with George Attarian, director will be performing at the Congregational Church of the Chimes 14115 Magnolia (at Hazeltine), Sherman Oaks 7:00 p.m. $5

April 6: THE HARP OF KING DAVID with Dominique Piana playing the Harp and Cantor Gregory Yaroslow, tenor in the Music Recital Hall, 11:00 a.m.

Higher Learning teaches little and has much to learn

By REBECCA CAMARENA
Entertainment Editor

Higher Learning, the latest movie by Academy Award nominated writer, producer, director John Singleton whose previous credits include "Boyz N the Hood" seems to fall short of its title.

The main theme of the movie is oppression and the struggle for power. Singleton uses a fictitious campus, Columbus University, characters, and story lines to chart a semester in the lives of a handful of students. Three students in particular confront issues of identity, racism, date rape, hatred and ignorance.

The film stars Jennifer Connelly, Ice Cube, Omar Epps, Regina King, Michael Rapaport, Kristy Swanson, Tyra Banks and Laurence Fishburne.

Former high school track star Malik Williams (Omar Epps), thinks he can cruise through his first year of college until he learns that in the eyes of the University, his worth as a student is equated only with the time he spends on the track.

Freshman Kristen Connor's (Kristy Swanson) a middle class white girl from Orange County appears to be a grown up but finds out that she's not really a grown up at all. She comes to college not knowing what to expect. She gets raped and falls in love with another woman. All these things she thought would never happen to her.

Remy (Michael Rapaport) thought college would be like one big party until he learns that if there is a party somewhere, he's not invited. Remy is a kid from Idaho who is very quiet and has no social skills. He turns to the only people who will accept him, the Skinheads.

Remy, Malik and Kristen cross paths and meet many new people as the weeks progress. Some of these people become the guiding forces in the three characters lives.

Fudge (Ice Cube) is the senior who advises Malik to explore and seek knowledge outside of the classroom. Taryn (Jennfier Connelly) is involved with the peace marches, womens' groups and befriends Kristen. Professor Phipps (Laurence Fishburne) is the teacher who wants students to use their minds to improve themselves and not simply just get by.

Singleton has made an extraordinary movie but because all these issues and stories are happening at the same time, it becomes more difficult to keep the stories from becoming jumbled. Whereas, it took American society decades and centuries to bring these issue to light and deal with them, Singleton has made them all come to light in one semester. No solutions follow any of the issues and the characters just seem to accept that this is the way it is and go on with life.

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ROD GOODMAN/VALLEY STAR

Linebacker Coach Don Shinnick prepares the Monarch's defensive linebackers for a game.

Monarch's linebacker coach talks about winning

By ROD GOODMAN
Photo Editor

Valley Monarchs linebacker coach Don Shinnick says," I don't talk about winning, I talk about not losing. "What is the difference, you might ask? "Well, if you're hanging over a cliff by a rope, you're still winning; if you let go, now you've lost."

It is a philosophy that is so simple yet so profound and one that obviously works. You see, coach Shinnick is not your typical community college football coach, Shinnick, 59, has participated in the Super Bowl six times.

Shinnick also holds an National Football League career record of 37 pass interceptions, a record that remains unmatched. He has battled against the likes of football greats, Joe Namath, Jim Brown and Gale Sayers. He is opposite of what you might expect, a warm unaffected, personable man. In 1945, 10 year-old Shinnick and his family moved from his hometown of Kansas City, Missouri to San Pedro, California.

Shinnick says, "I played sandlot games when I was 10, 11, 12 but I was interested in a lot of sports. I played baseball at UCLA for a couple of years, and rugby. I was not good enough to play basketball."

After graduating from San Pedro High School in 1953 Shinnick was all set to go to UCLA on a full scholarship when he realized he was short one class, English 1A. So Shinnick found himself at Valley for the summer of 1953.

Shinnick had to work very hard to make it onto the UCLA Bruins. His senior year, Shinnick made it to starting linebacker.

Unfortunately, that same year, UCLA was placed on probation for a recruiting violation. As a result of the probation the bruins only played 5 games that season.

Despite this bad break Don Shinnick was voted "Back of the year" by the Associated Press.

In 1957, after graduating from UCLA with a degree in physical Education, Shinnick was quickly drafted by the then Baltimore colts as a linebacker.

Being a second round draft pick could have posed some incredible pressure as a rookie. Shinnick quietly dismissed this. "Well, it's an amazing thing when you come in and you prove within a week that you're pretty good. Now the guys say, 'Hmm he's pretty good. He might make this team and help us,'" Shinnick says.

"Shinning passed their test, "I was one of the boys pretty quickly," Shinnick says.

And help them he did. The following year the Baltimore Colts went on to the 1958 World Championships (later renamed The Super Bowl) to play against the New York Giants at Yankee Stadium. The Colts beat the Giants in sudden death overtime, 23 to 17.

The following year the Colts defeated the Giants at the 1959 World Championships, 31 to 16.

On the question of anxiety or pressure playing in a Bowl Game Shinnick says, "Every game leading to the bowl is a pressure game...you have to win games to get there...you don't play against nobodies, they want to win too."

Shinnick and the Colts went to the Super Bowl two more times, in 1964 against the Cleveland Browns and in 1969 against the New York Jets. The Colts lost 27 to 0 and 16 to 7 respectively.

Retiring from the grid iron in 1970, Shinnick decided to pass on his knowledge of the game. Shinnick was hired on as the Defensive Coach for the Chicago Bears during the 1970-71 season.

In 1971 he moved onto the then Oakland Raiders as Defensive Coach. 1977 would be Coach Shinnick's last season in professional football.

Going out in style, Shinnick and his Raiders beat the Minnesota Vikings, 32 to 14, in the 1977 Super Bowl. After a 20 year career in professional football and three championship rings, Shinnick decided to take it easy.

Over the next several years Shinnick coached High School football and coached at Central Methodist College.

In 1985 Shinnick was lured back into professional ball by the New England Patriots as Defensive coach. One year later the Patriots faced off against the Chicago Bears in the 1986 Super Bowl. The Patriots were defeated 46 to 10.

Since his departure from the Patriot in 1990 Shinnick has spent his time not only as linebacker coach for the Monarchs but also as inventor.

Over the last few years Shinnick's passion for golf has lead him to invent a one-handed putter.

Shinnick is also an accomplished handball player. Dale Beck, sports information director for Valley, a man 20 years Shinnick's junior, recalls their handball match, "He is very competitive. He beat me real good," Beck says.

Shinnick says, "Over my years the good Lord has given me a competitiveness that I just don't like to lose on anything."

Shinnick says, "I was very fortunate. I never had a knee operation in all these years. The Lord had to protect me because that's a lot of years playing."

Not letting go of the rope Shinnick says, "I was on the winning team 3 times and we lost 3 times. I've got to get that seventh one."

Moore could not hope for anything more

"Read for pleasure, find stuff that speaks to you."

Rod Moore, intructor

By S.L. SALAMONE
Valley Star Staff Writer

It took seven years for Rod Moore, instructor at Valley, to produce his first book, but at long last he has. On his first try, Moore won the Iowa Short Fiction Award for 1994.

"There's so little reward in the process of writing. There are no guarantees of awards, and then you go and win something like this and it's actually frightening after you have an award. The thrill lasts only a few months and then everyone is waiting for the next book," says Moore.

The 130 page book is titled "Igloo Among Palms." Moore says the theme of the stories is psychological and cultural displacement and many of the stories take place in the California-Mexico border region.

The New York Times book reviewer, Tom Sleigh said, "Perhaps what impresses the reader most about Mr. Moore's collection is its imaginative wayward-ness. The seemingly irrelevant or startling details and shifts in plot are so grounded in each character's consciousness that their very implausibility begins to persuade us."

Moore says that he is happy with the review. He says, "I'm ecstatic. Tom Sleigh was the ideal reader. He seemed to understand the book really well."

The Iowa Short Fiction Award is awarded to one book a year from entries all over the country. The University of Iowa Press printed 5,000 copies of Moore's book and they are available locally at Dutton's Book Store.

The adage, "Write about what you know" is exactly what Moore did. The California-Mexico border area is territory that Moore is familiar with as well as Latino and Hispanic cultures. Moore taught for a year at Imperial Valley College, located near El Centro and spent a year teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) at the University of Puerto Rico.

Moore teaches English, ESL, creative writing, reading, and education (classes for future teachers.) He has been at Valley since 1990. "I get so much satisfaction from teaching. Writing is really a solitary thing. The ideal thing is to be able to do both," says Moore.

Moore says that he plans to use the book in his classes. "It will demystify writing and make it less intimidating." He says, "It's good for students to know a real flesh and blood writer. Writers are so distant. I want them to know that writers can be the guy in the hallway with the perfectly normal life."

Moore says, "The key to all this is reading. It's so discouraging for teachers to discover how many students don't read. People rob themselves of discovering the world of literature." Moore's advice to students is to read, "Read for pleasure, find stuff that speaks to you. Reading can be entertaining and there's something out there for you if you just look."

Plans are already underway for another book, which Moore says should not take him seven years. "I think my next book will be better and I feel I have to live up to that, of course I could just rest on my laurels and have written on my tombstone, `Iowa Short Fiction Award,'" says Moore.

"The hardest part of writing, especially for young writers is to develop a thick skin. You get so many rejections and it's discouraging. Students have to remember that there is an audience for them. Listen to the voices that tell you that your writing is good and only listen to them, that's what keeps you going." Says Moore.

Students might be familiar with Moore and his work with the Puente Program on campus. Puente is a program that promotes transfer of Mexican-American and Latino students to a four year institution. Louis Garcia started the program and enlisted Moore's help with the English teaching end of it.

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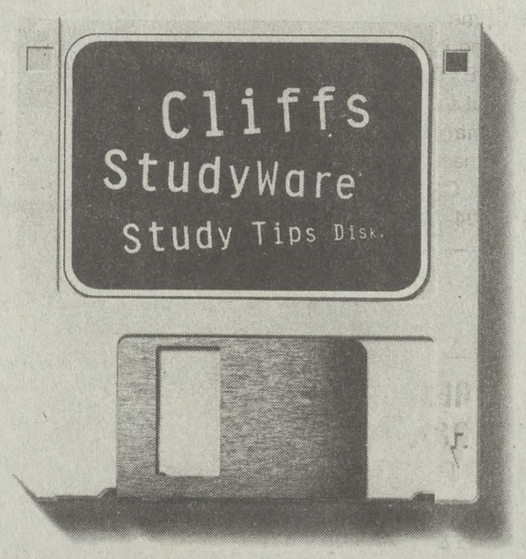
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Sports profile

Myers makes a splash with the swim team

"If you don't try, you'll never know. You've got to just jump into that pool."
Shanyn Myers, student.

By S.L. SALAMONE
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Women's Swim Team is really strong this year, said William Krauss, Valley swim coach. One of the women to watch according to Krauss is Shanyn Myers.

Last May, Myers won All-American for the Butterfly. What is less known is that Myers was in two car accidents, one in her freshman year and one in her junior year at Valley.

Myers said she really wondered about her performance after the accidents. "Coaches said my performance probably wouldn't improve much, but I just got back in the water and surprised everyone with how rapidly I progressed."

Winning the State Championships last year proves the accidents didn't keep Myers down.

"I've always been very athletic, ever since I was a little girl," Myers said. She played football in a sorority team at California State University Northridge where she attended school for one semester. "Sports just seems to be something I'm good at."

Myers is 20 years old and graduated from Alemany High School. She is in her fourth semester here at Valley.

The swim team started practicing Jan. 17 and Myers averages one and a half hours in the pool daily. "Everybody's practice time is different, it depends on how much you have to practice to do well."

Myers said that she trains in the pool almost year round ever since her junior year in high school. She explains that the reason why she likes the swim team is because, "It's an individual sport and a team sport together. You always want to better yourself, but also you want to work for the team."

Besides being an athlete, Myers is a full time student as well. "A lot of people don't realize that for students involved in sports, studies come first, no matter how much you love the sport. If you don't make the grade you don't make the cut," Myers said.

Although Myers said swimming is important in her life, her big goal is to become a doctor. Myers is a Pre-med student and she has plans to attend Mount Saint Mary's College. Besides the swim team, Myers is carrying 17 units here at Valley.

"School is so important," Myers said. "When I was in high school I didn't think much about it, but it's different now. On Saturday night you open a book and you know it's going to pay off. It's like the pool, you know that practice time is going to make you better."

"That's what athletics do. There's studying and eating right and exercising. There is so much more to sports. It's not just practising," added Myers.

Taking risks is not new to Myers as she explains that she had a "terrible fear" of the water until the age of 10.

"If you don't try, you'll never know. You've got to just jump into that pool."

"The swim team gets into their first meets and people don't do well and then they drop out. It's not where you start in the beginning, it's where you end up that's important."



DOROU BOGHOSIAN/VALLEY STAR
Shanyn Myers was named "All-American" in swimming in '94.

Monarch announcer addresses his experience

By LEONARDO MAYORGA
Valley Star Staff Writer

For the last 14 years, Dale Beck has been the Public Address Announcer for Monarch football, as well as for Men's and Women's Basketball.

His voice might be well known by the fans who attend Monarch football and basketball games, but the man himself is somewhat unknown.

"I don't get nervous anymore because I've been doing it (public address announcer) for years. In football you sit behind the crowd, but in basketball you sit in front of them and you get a little nervous because you're the center point of attention. But the more you have to do it, the more you focus on your work," said Beck.

Beck took part as a host of a bodybuilding tour which toured China in the summer of 1992 for 30 days in nine different cities. "A friend of mine had a tour going over there and the one thing they needed was an American. It was hard because I spoke to 5,000 to 6,000 people in English and they spoke Chinese, but I had a translator with me," said Beck.

Beck also serves in Valley as a Sports Information Director, who is the person who is in charge of putting together the programs for football and basketball games. He also works with stats and gets the press releases to the coaches and the media in case they have questions about the players.

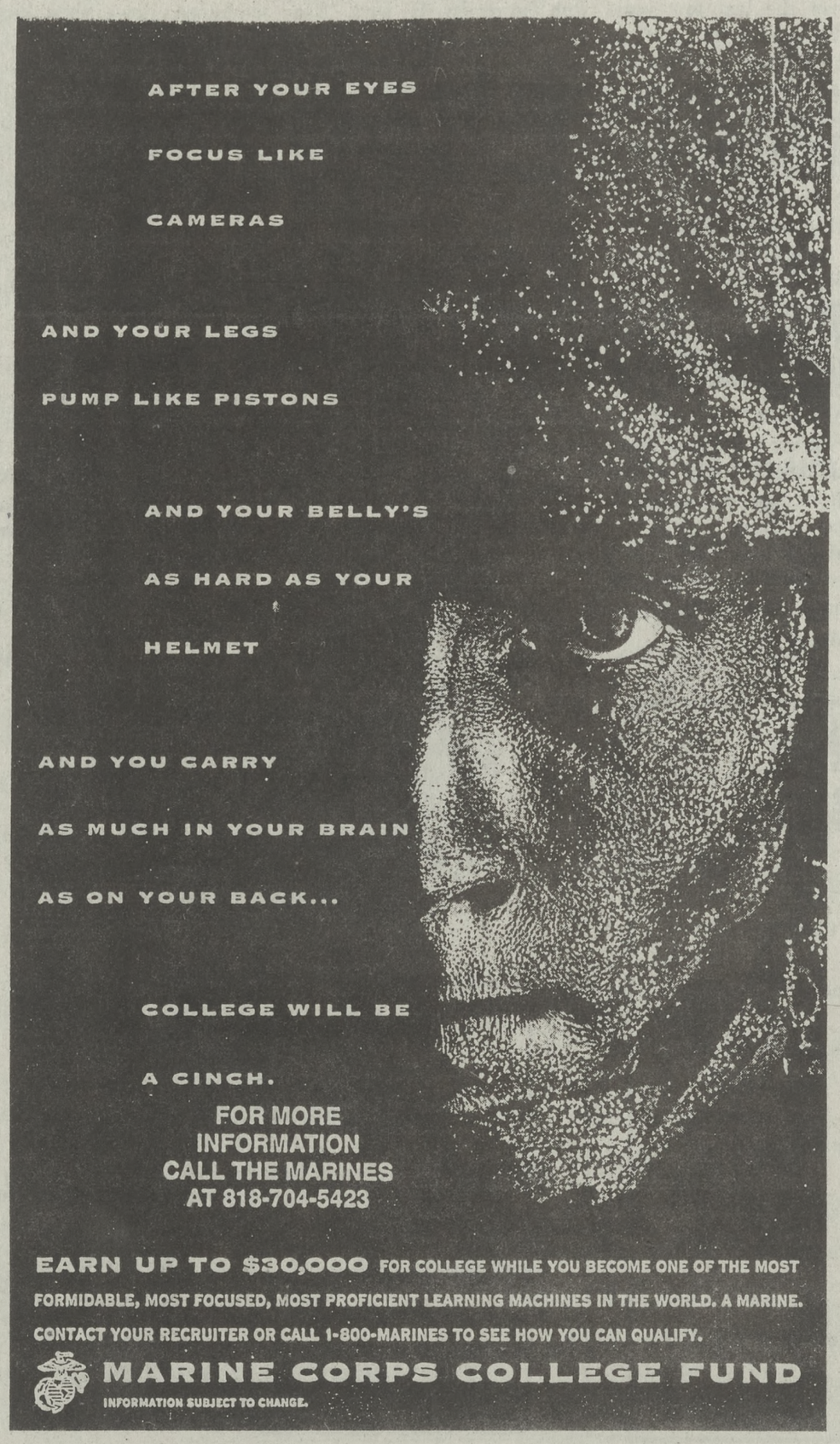
"What I want, not only as a Sports Information Director but as a Public Address Announcer, is for the fans to come, have a good time and to leave with a smile. I want people to go home feeling good," said Beck.

Beck earned a journalism degree from San Diego State University and currently works as a science teacher at Pine Crest Middle School in Chatsworth.

Beck admits to have learned to speak in public at Valley, when he attended in 1975 and 1976. "I was very shy and couldn't even say my name in front of the class, but our teacher, Mr. Nelson, helped me get over my fear," said Beck, "I couldn't do what I do if it weren't for Chuck Ferrero."

Upcoming Sports Schedule

Today Men's Baseball vs. Pasadena 2:00 Men's and Women's Track @ Santa Monica (Valley, Santa Monica, Cuesta, Hancock) 2:00
2/17 Women's Softball vs. Saddleback 3:00
2/18 Men's and Women's Swimming Santa Monica Relays 11:00 a.m.
2/20 Women's Softball vs. Citrus 3:30
2/21 Men's Baseball at Fullerton 2:00
2/22 Women's Softball vs. Irvine Valley 3:30
2/23 Men's Baseball vs. El Camino 2:00
2/24 Women's Softball at Cerritos 3:00 Men's and Women's Track @ Ventura (Valley, Ventura, Moorpark, West L.A.) 2:00



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